

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Woollen Mills in Rajasthan

1090. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of woollen mills in Rajasthan;
- (b) whether the Government proposed to set up more woollen mills in the public/joint sector in that State; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA):

- (a) The total number of woollen Mills in Rajasthan is 62 (Sixty two).
- (b) There is no proposal before the Central Government to set up woollen mills in the public/joint sector in the State of Rajasthan.
- (c) Does not arise.

Rubber Park in Kerala

1091. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Rubber Board has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for starting 'Rubber Park' in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the stage at which the above proposal stands at present;
- (c) whether land is available in Airapuram near Muvattupuzha in Kerala for this purpose; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d) The Rubber Board has prepared a scheme to set up a Rubber Park in Kerala in association with Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation which will facilitate establishment of rubber and rubber wood based industries. The scheme envisages setting up the Rubber Park tentatively at Irapuram, Kerala, at an estimated investment of Rs. 36.61 crore. About 100 acres of land are proposed to be developed with adequate infrastructure facility for establishing about 60 industrial units. Inter Ministerial consultations for according investment approval to the proposal is in hand.

DGS&D Rate Contract Mandatory for all Ministries/Departments

1092. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is mandatory for all Central Government Ministries/Departments to operate rate contract concluded by DGS&D;
- (b) if so, the details of notification thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the purpose to form DGS&D;
- (d) whether Air Headquarters has concluded its own rate contract for gases while the same contract has been concluded by DGS&D; and
- (e) if so, the reasons for why it was concluded the rate contract at higher rates by Air Headquarters for the same items where DGS&D rate contract was concluded at cheaper rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c) As per allocation of Business Rules, 1961 (as amended from time to time) the Department of Supply in the Ministry of Commerce is the nodal Department for the purchase and the inspection of the stores required by the Ministries/Departments and Offices of the Central Government. The Central Purchase Organisation i.e. DGS&D concludes rate contracts with eligible firms for procurement of various items of common use required by Ministries/Departments & offices of Central Government. The Central Government Ministries/Departments are required to make purchase of items, covered by DGS&D rate contracts, against these rate contracts where the value of purchase exceeds their delegated powers of direct purchase which are presently Rs. 20,000/- at a time and Rs. 1 Lakh aggregate in a year.

(d) Air Headquarters have concluded contract for the gases which are specific to the requirement of their services i.e. Oxygen Gas for breathing purposes. DGS&D has not concluded any Rate Contract for the gas. R/C concluded by DGS&D are for industrial purposes.

(e) Comparison of prices does not arise as items available on rate contract with Air Hqrs. and DGS&D are different.

Bharat Leather Corporation Ltd.

1093. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of sales turnover achieved by the Bharat Leather Corporation Ltd. during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of Package Assistance extended by the company during the said period to the artisans and results achieved with number of artisans so employed under this scheme;

(c) the details of employment generated by the company during the above period with percentage of employment of SC/ST communities people;

(d) whether the company has incurred the losses during the above period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The sales turnover achieved by Bharat Leather Corporation during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 was Rs. 501.97 lakhs, Rs. 618.59 lakhs and Rs. 654.46 lakhs, respectively.

(b) Under the Package Assistance Scheme, the artisans were provided with necessary infrastructure facilities and raw materials for production of footwear. The goods produced by the artisans were purchased by the Corporation and marketed. Around 200 artisans were employed under the Scheme. The value of footwear produced by the artisans was Rs. 138.15 lakhs during 1993-94, Rs. 193.00 lakhs during 1994-95 and Rs. 212.20 lakhs during 1995-96.

(c) The employment generated by the Company during the Three-year period was around 350, out of which 200 were artisans (96% of them belonging to SC/ST) under the Package Assistance Scheme and the remaining around 150 (29% of them belonging to SC/ST) were regular employees.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The net losses incurred were Rs. 124.68 lakhs during 1993-94, Rs. 152.31 lakhs during 1994-95, and Rs. 198.06 lakhs during 1995-96.

[Translation]

"World Bank Loan for Co-operative Sector"

1094. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank is providing financial assistance to cooperatives sector of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount released for Bihar during the last three years; and

(d) the areas/sectors for which the World Bank provide financial assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) World Bank assistance is given to projects in various sectors like Agriculture, Forestry, Irrigation and

Water Supply, Power, Oil and Gas, Railways, Coal, Arban Development, Transport, Fertilizer, Industry etc.

Monitoring the Working of Non-Banking Financial Institutions

1095. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has opened any branch within any of its Banking Units to monitor the working of non-banking financial institutions in some States particularly in Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of complaints received by the said branches regarding the working of non-banking financial institutions so far; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that a Financial Companies Wing (FCW) has been set up in Ahmedabad Regional Office of Department of Supervision with effect from 1st January, 97 for exercising effective supervision over the non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) in the State of Gujarat and Union Territories of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. The jurisdiction of the FCW at Ahmedabad has been carved out of the area under the jurisdiction of the FCW in Mumbai Regional Office. Prior to opening of the FCW at Ahmedabad, FCWs had been set up at the undernoted centres :

Sl. No.	Centre	Date of Opening	Area of Jurisdiction
1.	Chennai	1.10.1996	State of Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondicherry.
2.	Thiruvananthapuram	1.10.1996	State of Kerala and Union Territory of Lakshadweep.

(c) and (d) Data with regard to number of complaints received so far by the Regional Offices of Department of Supervision regarding the working of NBFCs is not readily available with RBI. Prior to the promulgation of the Reserve Bank of India (Amendment) Ordinance, on 9th January, 1997, RBI did not have sufficient statutory powers to deal with the NBFCs against who complaints were received. RBI had been referring the complaints against NBFCs to the concerned companies for redressal of the grievances of the depositors.

Now under the provisions of RBI (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 RBI have been empowered to file an application for winding up of an NBFC under the provisions of Companies Act, if the company is inter